

v. 23. 1884

v. 24. 1886

v. 25. 1887

v. 26. 1888

v. 27. 1889

v. 28. 1890

v. 29. 1891

v. 30. 1892

v. 31. 1893

v. 32. 1894

v. 33. 1895

v. 34. 1896

v. 35. 1897

v. 36. 1898

v. 37. 1899

Rules of Decorum

HOWARD COLLEGE
LIBRARY

MINUTES
OF THE
FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
COOSA RIVER
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,
HELD WITH
CHILDERSBURG BAPTIST CHURCH,
TALLADEGA COUNTY, ALA.,
TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY,
September 16th, 17th and 18th, 1884.

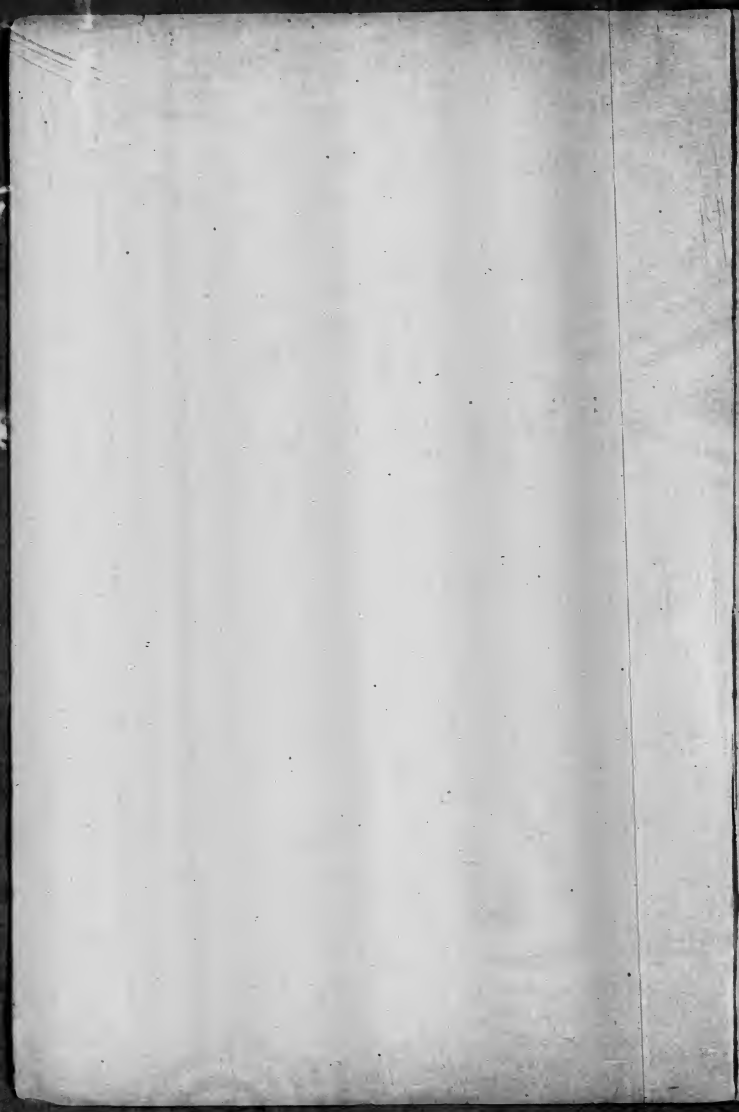
OFFICERS:

T. P. GWIN.....	Moderator.....	Oxford, Alabama.
LEALIS LAW.....	Clerk.....	Cropwell, "
JAS. K. ELLIOTT.....	Treasurer.....	Talladega, "

SELMA, ALA.:

FROM THE PRESS OF THE SELMA PRINTING COMPANY.

1884.



PROGRAMME OF BUSINESS FOR COOSA RIVER ASSOCIATION.

FIRST DAY.

1. Devotional exercises.
2. Read letters and enroll messengers.
3. Elect officers: Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer.
4. Read Rules of Decorum.
5. Invite visiting brethren to seats.
6. Invite churches to unite with our Association.
7. Call for correspondence from Associations.
8. Return correspondence to Associations: Shelby, Cahaba Valley, Boiling Spring, Carey, Canaan, Central, and Tallassahatchee and Ten Islands.
9. Appoint delegates to Baptist State Convention.
10. Appoint committee on Finance.
11. Appoint committee on Preaching.
12. Call for report on Family Religion.
13. Fix hours to meet and adjourn.
14. Miscellaneous business.
15. Adjourn.

SECOND DAY.

16. Devotional exercises.
17. Read minutes, and call roll of messengers.
18. Miscellaneous business.
19. Report of committee on Sabbath Schools.
20. " " " " State Missions.
21. " " " " Ministerial Education.
22. " " " " Temperance.
23. Appoint committees to report at next session, viz:

STANDING COMMITTEES:

- On State Missions.
 - " Home "
 - " Foreign "
 - " Sabbath Schools.
 - " Temperance.
 - " Bible Work and Colportage.
 - " Ministerial Education.
24. Appoint Executive Committee of the Association.
 25. Miscellaneous business.
 26. Adjourn.

II.

THIRD DAY.

27. Devotional exercises.
28. Read minutes, and call roll of messengers.
29. Miscellaneous business.
30. Report of committee on Bible Work and Colportage.
31. " " " " Home Missions.
32. " " " " Foreign " "
33. " " Board of Trustees of Indigent Ministers' Fund.
34. " " Treasurer " " " "
35. " " Executive Committee of Association.
36. " " Treas. Ex. " " " "
37. " " Committee on Finance.
38. " " Treasurer of Association.
39. Appoint time and place for next session.
40. Appoint preacher and alternate for next Introductory Sermon.
41. Order Clerk's salary paid, and 1,000 minutes printed.
42. Miscellaneous business.
43. Read minutes of this day's business.
44. Adjourn *sine die*.

ABNER WILLIAMS, }
 J. C. WRIGHT, } Com.
 J. S. KELLY, }

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I. This Association shall be known by the name of the Coosa River Baptist Association.

ART. II. It shall be composed of well accredited messengers, appointed by regular Baptist churches, which are united in this union.

ART. III. Its meetings shall be annual.

ART. IV. Its officers shall be a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be elected by ballot, or otherwise, at each session, and hold office till their successors are declared duly elected. *Provided*, that the non-election of Treasurer shall not interfere with organization.

ART. V. The Association can not rule, but may advise the churches. But it has a full right to reject the messengers of any church in disorder in faith or practice.

ART. VI. Petitions for membership must be by letter and one or more messengers; and the Association, in each case, is to judge on the question of reception.

ART. VII. Each church of fifty members, or less, shall have three messengers, and one messenger for each fifty or fractional number over fifty.

ART. VIII. This Association is in full sympathy with the spirit, and ready to correspond and co-operate with all regular Missionary Baptist organizations, for the spread of the gospel and the extension of the Redeemer's kingdom on earth; but a difference of opinion on these matters shall not necessarily involve the question of fellowship.

ART. IX. Churches composing this body will be expected to contribute to and sustain a contingent fund, which shall be deposited by the messengers, at each annual meeting, with the Finance Committee; and other contributions for benevolent purposes will be earnestly sought and fostered by the Association.

ART. X. This Constitution, or any Article may be amended or abolished, at a regular meeting, on the concurrence of a vote, by standing, of two-thirds of the messengers present. *Provided*, such intended change is announced by the Moderator at least six hours before the action is taken.

RULES OF DECORUM.

RULE 1. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

RULE 2. A Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the suffrages of the members present.

RULE 3. The names of the members shall be called each day before proceeding to business, and no member shall absent himself from the Association unless he have leave or be sick and unable to attend.

RULE 4. Visiting ministering brethren present shall be invited to seats in the Association.

RULE 5. The Moderator shall preside over the Association, preserve order, and appoint all committees, with the sanction of the Association.

RULE 6. The Moderator may speak in debate on any question, appointing some other member to fill the chair temporarily, but shall not vote, except in case of a tie.

RULE 7. The Moderator shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Association by any two members.

IV.

RULE 8. Every member, when speaking, shall rise from his seat, respectfully address the Moderator, confine himself to the question before the body, and avoid personalities.

RULE 9. A motion made must be seconded and stated by the Moderator before debating; and every motion shall be reduced to writing, if the Moderator or any member desire it.

RULE 10. When a motion is stated by the Moderator, it is in possession of the Association, but may be withdrawn by the mover at any time before a decision or amendment.

RULE 11. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except to lay on the table, postpone indefinitely, commit or amend; which said motions shall have precedence in the order in which they are stated; but a motion to adjourn is always in order, except when a member is speaking or the body engaged in voting.

RULE 12. All questions, except such as relate to the Constitution, the Rules of Decorum, or the reception or exclusion of churches, shall be decided by a majority of the votes; in the excepted cases, two-thirds are required.

RULE 13. Filling blanks with particular numbers, the question shall first be taken on the highest number and longest time.

RULE 14. When a motion has once been decided, a member voting with the majority may move for a reconsideration on any day during the session.

RULE 15. No speaker shall be interrupted, unless he be out of order, and no member shall speak more than twice on the same proposition without leave of the Association.

RULE 16. No practice shall be allowed which has a tendency to interrupt speaking or the business of the Association.

RULE 17. The appellation of "Brother" shall be used by members in their addresses one to another.

RULE 18. The Clerk shall read these rules at the opening of every session of the Association.

RULE 19. Any member violating these rules shall be reproved by the Moderator.

MINUTES.

CHILDERSBURG BAPTIST CHURCH,

Sept. 16th, A. D. 1884.

Messengers to compose the Fifty-first Annual Session of the Coosa River Baptist Association met this day with the Childersburg Baptist Church, Talladega County, Alabama.

At 11 A. M. the Introductory Sermon was preached by J. C. Wright, from Col. 1:10. Subject, "New Era."

Intermission of one hour.

1:30 O'CLOCK P. M.

Re-assembled to organize. Devotional services conducted by Sam'l Henderson, Moderator.

The letters from the churches were read by B. D. Williams and J. O. Mallory.

Messengers enrolled:

FIRST DISTRICT.

Cold Water—D. W. Holman and W. W. Jones.

Sulphur Springs—H. D. Hackney, S. A. Kirksey, J. T. Vinson and Geo. Easterwood.

Antioch—J. L. Jenkins, W. Manning and C. J. Lacy.

Salem—L. B. Ingram and J. F. Jarman.

Oxford—Abner Williams, J. C. Wright, T. P. Gwin, B. D. Williams and J. S. Kelly.

Jacksonville—Joseph Nunnally.

Post Oak Spring—Not represented.

Mt. Zion (Calhoun Co.)—W. S. Griffin, C. C. Lloyd and W. D. Bush.

Oak Bowery—B. B. Nunnally and Geo. D. Harris.

Cane Creek—James Martin and Slayton Lloyd.

Munford—J. D. Wright and J. H. Pope.

Weaver's Station—E. V. Weaver, D. F. Weaver, H. Johnson and James Lester.

Anniston—E. T. Smyth, Sam'l Chadwell and W. H. Jeffers.

SECOND DISTRICT.

Blue Eye—Letter.

Talladega—L. W. Lawler and Wm. Stringer.

Ferryville—Not represented.
 Refuge—Harris Sisson.
 Pleasant Grove—D. H. Thweatt, T. F. Elliott, J. K. Elliott and Wiley Ogletree.
 Alpine—J. O. Mallory, J. E. Welch and John Sawyer.
 Hephzibah—Wm. A. Hawkins, John Burke, Jas. Hitt, F. G. Mullen and Wm. Hicks.

THIRD DISTRICT.

Pilgrim's Rest—Not represented.
 Fort Williams—M. W. Borum, H. J. Pope, John Butts and Larkin Waters.
 Tallassahatchee—W. F. Burke, Wm. Edwards, J. E. Shackelford and J. T. McMillan.
 Childersburg—F. Moss, D. B. Oden and T. W. Coleman.
 Mt. Zion (Talladega Co.)—B. M. Fluker, W. H. Malone and W. Wilkes.
 Rocky Mount—Not represented.
 Winterboro—J. W. Davis, W. A. Morris and H. D. Moore.
 Mt. Sharon—W. B. Hammett, K. Smith and H. G. Coleman.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

Harpersville—J. P. Fluker, R. M. Borum, H. C. Phillips, J. B. Fiquet and R. B. Posey.
 Spring Creek—C. F. Elliott.
 Macedonia—A. M. Posey, F. Gamble, M. Clinkscales and D. C. Davis.
 Coosa Valley—L. Law, B. C. Heaslett and T. M. Jones.
 Wilsonville—M. Henderson and F. M. Pitts.

Officers elected: T. P. Gwin, Moderator; L. Law, Clerk; J. K. Elliott, Treasurer.

Abner Williams offered the Programme of Business for this session, which was adopted.

Correspondents present and invited to seats:

Cattlet Smith and W. R. Miller, from Central Association.
 J. L. Thompson, from Unity.
 J. G. Mundine, from Cahaba Valley.
 J. A. Scott, from Tallassahatchee and Ten Islands.
 Sam'l Henderson, from Canaan.

Correspondence returned:

To Shelby Association—M. Henderson and J. P. Fluker.
 " Cahaba Valley Association—S. A. Kirksey.
 " Boiling Spring Association—W. W. Bigbee.
 " Tallassahatchee and Ten Islands—J. C. Wright, T. P. Gwin, W. S. Griffin, C. J. Lacy, B. B. Nunnally, Geo. D. Harris, B. D. Williams and E. T. Smyth.
 To Central Association—W. Wilkes.
 " Carey " —L. Merkl.

Delegates appointed to the State Convention: J. C. Wright, E. T. Smyth, T. P. Gwin, W. S. Griffin, J. J. D. Renfroe, L. W. Lawler, L. Law, W. Wilkes, B. D. Williams, and as alternates any

members of this body who may be present at the next meeting of the State Convention.

Committee on Finance: D. H. Thweatt, B. C. Heaslett and T. M. Jones.

Committee on Public Worship: B. D. Williams, J. T. McMillan, and the pastor and deacons of Childersburg Church.

Committee on Colportage and Bible Work: E. T. Smyth, D. B. Oden, Thos. F. Elliott, Abner Williams and L. W. Lawler.

Agreed to meet at 9 A. M., adjourn for preaching at 11, reassemble at 1:30 P. M., and adjourn at 4 P. M.

T. P. Gwin was elected to preach the next Introductory Sermon; W. Wilkes, alternate.

Adjourned to 9 A. M. Wednesday.

WEDNESDAY, Sept. 17th, 9 A. M.

Association came to order. Devotional services conducted by the Moderator. Minutes of first day read and approved.

On motion of A. Williams:

Resolved, That all funds reported by churches and sent to this Association for Missions, except funds specifically designated, be distributed as follows: One-half to the State Mission Board and the balance divided equally between the Home and Foreign Mission Boards.

Adopted.

The Committee on Family Religion reported:

REPORT ON FAMILY RELIGION.

While your committee recognize the importance and necessity of religion in the household, influencing the heart and controlling the acts of each member thereof, and the intimate relation between household piety and church development, yet in view of the elaborate reports of the past several sessions of this body on that subject, we consider it necessary to merely reiterate briefly what has already been stated with so much emphasis:

1. Family religion is pre-eminently the religion of Christ, as it refers to family relations in all respects.

2. Family religion consists, first, in being religious ourselves at home, among our families, and in all our domestic relations in life; and, second, in imparting such religious instruction to our children and our entire household as may, by the blessing of God, be the means of winning their precious souls to Christ.

3. In the family are the foundations of whatever good and great things are possible to our race. Even civilization itself owes all that is ennobling, pure, and true, to the family.

Your committee recommend that the pastors of churches in the bounds of

this body be urged in their ministrations to their respective churches to preach occasionally on the importance, duty and necessity of heads of households maintaining regular family worship. Respectfully submitted,

LEALIS LAW, Chm'n.

Adopted.

The Committee on State Missions reported:

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

We find in the ninth annual report of the State Mission Board much to cheer our hearts, to stimulate our zeal, and to encourage our efforts in this great work. The work of the Board for the past year has been progressive and aggressive. More has been accomplished than in any former year of its history. The work done and the results achieved have been most gratifying.

Including the Secretary, seventy men have been engaged in State Mission work during the year, for the whole or part of their time. These brethren have labored in fifty-six counties in the State, and their labors have been greatly blessed. A partial report of their work in the State up to July, the end of the conventional year, is as follows:—

Sunday Schools organized, 61; churches constituted, 21; restored, 46; received by letter, 438; baptisms, 919; total additions to our churches, 1,403.

These statistics show an advance in State Mission work and in the number added to the churches. The contributions to the Board have been equal to those of last year. Fifty of our associations are contributing through the Board to objects of benevolence. This is an increase of ten over last year.

These results, compared with the amount of money expended, constitute the highest possible commendation of the wisdom of the course pursued by the Board. These results, too, constitute an argument which proves that this Board is worthy of our most liberal support and the most hearty co-operation of the Denomination all over the State.

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. WRIGHT, Chm'n.

P. S. The Board suggests and requests that Coosa River Association raise during this year \$1,077 for the various objects fostered by the Board, which is 36 cents per capita.

Adopted.

The Association then adjourned for preaching by G. A. Nunnally, Associate Secretary of the Home Mission Board. Pledges were taken and cash collected. Total, \$45.10.

1:30 P. M., Sept. 17th.

The Association re-assembled. Prayer by Geo. D. Harris. Wilsonville, Shelby County, Ala., was selected as the place for the next meeting of the Association. Time, Friday before the third Sabbath in September, A. D. 1885, at 11 A. M.

In the absence of the report from the Committee on Ministerial Education, after addresses on the subject by several brethren, W. Wilkes offered the following:

Resolved, 1. That we hail with pleasure the establishment of a Board of Ministerial Education with the especial view of educating young ministers for Alabama in Alabama.

2. That we will cheerfully co-operate with said Board in its laudable efforts to place an education within the power of every young man in our State called of God to this work.

3. That the establishment of a "Mess Hall" for the theologues meets our concurrence as greatly lessening the expenses of their education.

Adopted.

Pledges were taken and cash collected. Total, \$106.10.

In the absence of the standing committee on Temperance, a special committee, consisting of B. D. Williams, J. C. Wright, and J. S. Kelly, was appointed to report on that subject.

The following resolutions, offered by Abner Williams, were adopted:

Resolved, i. That the churches of this Association be requested to adopt the plan of systematic benevolence recommended by the last State Convention; and that the Clerk of the Association be requested to incorporate said plan in the minutes of this session.

2. That all the pastors of churches in this Association are earnestly requested to present this matter to their churches at the earliest time practicable, and urge them to adopt this or some other systematic plan of benevolence.

[The following is the plan referred to, as taken from item 78 in the minutes of the Baptist State Convention for 1884.—CLERK.]

I. That each church in the State be requested to take collections for Missions as frequently as possible; that those churches having services every Sabbath take these collections once a month, and that no church take collections less frequently than four times a year.

II. That the pastors and the officers of the churches be requested to get each member, however indigent, to agree that he will contribute a stipulated amount at each of these collections, whether he be present on the occasion or not.

III. That these collections are to be the church's contributions for all missionary purposes, and are to be divided among the various departments of mission work according to the wish of the donor, or by action of the church.

IV. That each church appoint some member to see that these collections are made at the time appointed, whose duty also it shall be to secure, by individual effort, such of the amounts promised as shall not be collected at the appointed time.

Adjourned with prayer to Thursday, the 18th, 9 A. M.

THURSDAY, Sept. 18th, 9 A. M.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Devotional services were conducted by the Moderator. Minutes of the previous day were read and approved.

Jas. K. Elliott, Treasurer, reported:

TREASURER'S REPORT.

J. K. ELLIOTT, Treasurer,

In account with Coosa River Association:

1883.	DR.		
Sept.	To cash received from Finance Committee for Minutes	\$ 74 10	
	For State Missions.....	69 53	
	" Home	75 88	
	" Foreign	62 54	
	" Associational Missions.....	10 95	
	" Jenkins' Fund	50 00	
	" Anniston Church	31 00	
	" Indigent Ministers' Fund.....	32 10	
	" Bible and Colportage	1 40	
	" Ministerial Education.....	2 00	

Aggregate..... \$409 70

CR.

	By cash paid L. Law for Minutes as per voucher No. 1....	\$ 74 10	
	" " " E. T. Smyth for Anniston Ch. as per vr. No. 2,...	36 00	
	" " " P. G. Stringer for Assoc'nal Miss'ns as per vr. No. 3	60 95	
	" " " C. W. Stringer for Ind. Min's as per vr. No. 4....	32 10	
	" " " T. M. Bailey for various other Missions as above		
	indicated, as per voucher No. 5.....	210 29	

Aggregate..... \$473 44

Respectfully submitted,

J. K. ELLIOTT, Treas.

Adopted.

C. W. Stringer, Treasurer of the Indigent Ministers' Fund,
reported:

REPORT ON INDIGENT MINISTERS' FUND.

C. W. STRINGER, Treas. I. M. Fund.

In account with Trustees I. M. Fund of the Coosa River Association:

1883.	DR.		
Sept. 10.	To balance on hand as per last report.....	\$2426 29	
" 14	" cash from Munford Church.....	5 00	
" " "	" " " Ferryville "	2 50	
" " "	" " " Pleasant Grove Church.....	5 60	
" " "	" " " Post Oak "	3 75	
" 26	" " " Alpine "	10 85	
" " "	" " " Weavers' Station "	2 50	
" " "	" " " Hephzibah "	5 00	
" " "	" " " Oak Bowery "	5 00	
" " "	" " " Cold Water "	5 00	
Nov. 10	" " " Refuge "	7 50	
Dec. 8	" " " Fort Williams "	2 50	
" 10	" " " Blue Eye "	7 50	
" " "	" " " Sulphur Springs "	5 00	

1884.			
Jan. 29	" " " A. W. Bell, to pay his note.....	26 45	
" " "	" " " C. W. Stringer, to pay his note...	26 45	
Feb. 11	" " " Alpine Church.....	8 00	
" " "	" " " E. B. Ledbetter.....	3 75	

Sept. 15 " amount rec'd for interest 1 year on \$2,426.29 194 1—\$2752 14

1883.	CR.		
Oct. 22.	By amount appropriated to Rev. E. Martin ...	\$ 50 15	

1884.
Sept. 18. By balance on hand..... 2701 99—\$2752 14

Amount of uncollected notes and pledges from individuals and churches, \$501.30

C. W. STRINGER, Treas. I. M. Fund.

Adopted.

HOWARD COLLEGE

LIBRARY

P. G. Stringer, Treasurer of the Executive Committee, reported:

REPORT OF TREASURER OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

P. G. STRINGER, Treas. of Ex. Committee,

In account with Coosa River Association:

1883.

DEBITS.

Sept. 10.	To balance on hand as per last report.....	\$117 49
" 26	To cash from J. K. Elliot for Ass'nal Miss'ns..	10 95
" " " " " " " "	Jenkins' Fund....	50 00—\$178 44

1883.

CREDITS.

Nov. 27.	By amount paid Rev. J. B. Mynatt for preaching at Union Church.	\$ 10 00
Dec. 5.	By amount paid E. Haywood, supplement to pastor's salary at Pilgrims' Rest Church..	20 00
1884.		
Feb. 1.	By amount paid Rev. E. T. Smyth for Anniston mission	30 00
Feb. 23.	By supplement to pastor's salary at Rocky Mount..	10 00
Sept. 18.	Balance cash on hand.....	108 44—\$178 44

P. G. STRINGER, Treas. Ex. Com.

Adopted.

The funds mentioned in the letter from Blue Eye Church (letter received after the organization of the body) were directed to be paid over to the Treasurer of the Association, and by him applied to purposes designated in said letter.

The Executive Committee was continued as heretofore, composed of P. G. Stringer, J. B. Mynatt, Ed. J. Dean, J. S. Kelly, G. A. Joiner, W. T. Webb, and John Henderson.

Abner Williams offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That a committee of three be appointed whose duty it shall be to prepare and furnish the Clerk of the Association by the 26th instant a Programme of Business for the next session.

2. That the Clerk be requested to publish in the front pages of the minutes of this session the Constitution, Rules of Decorum, and Programme of Business.

Adopted.

Committee appointed: A. Williams, J. C. Wright, and J. S. Kelly.

The Committee on Home Missions reported:

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

It is gratifying to your committee to be able to report that the workings of the Home Mission Board have been successful and entirely satisfactory to the Denomination during the past year; and, under the present plan of allowing all contributions to the Home Board to be received and forwarded by the Secretary of the State Mission Board, is working well. And let it be remembered that the Home Board does not, by any means, desire to do the work or interfere with the plans and arrangements of any State or local Board; but it proposes to assist these State and local Boards in supplying destitute places where, from lack of funds and

other necessary agencies, they can not supply. It may readily be seen that there need be no conflict between this and other Boards, and that a broad field of Christian usefulness lies open before it. This Board is assisting feeble churches in large towns and cities and at important stations, by supplementing the salaries of pastors.

Your committee would call special attention to the Church Building Department of the Home Board. Through this agency the Board is assisting feeble churches in erecting houses of worship at important stations. We commend this work to the Baptists throughout our Association as a work worthy of our earnest co-operations, prayers and contributions. The Board has already enlarged its field of operations, and, to keep abreast with the rapid advance of this wonderful work of our age, far greater sacrifices and contributions must be made than have ever been made before. The liberality of years past will be insufficient to meet the demands of the present and future. Every new field, and every missionary success, calls for an increase of effort and contributions to its support. To be laborers together with Christ demands a forward movement and to take advantage of every opportunity and opening which he gives, to hasten the promised triumph of the great salvation among all nations. We may make our lives more glorious by attempting the great things which our Savior calls upon us as his disciples to perform. Let us try to come up to the full measure of our duty as an Association. It is believed by your committee that much more can be done than we are now doing, if the churches will adopt some systematic plan for the collection of funds for Missions.

Respectfully submitted,

E. T. SMYTH, Chm'n.

Adopted.

The Committee on Colportage and Bible Work reported: REPORT ON BIBLE AND COLPORTAGE WORK.

Your committee desire to call special attention to the following facts and suggestions, and urge the churches composing this Association to give earnest and cordial support and liberal contributions to this work.

The State Mission Board have had twenty-six men engaged in this work during the last conventional year. Their labors extended into forty-seven counties of this State. They sold 8,732 books and pamphlets, valued at \$2,864.51. They gave away to poor families and individuals destitute of the Scriptures, 100 Bibles and 804 Testaments, valued at \$66.20. For the furtherance of this work twenty permanent funds of \$100 each have been raised in cash and pledges, by Sunday Schools, churches and associations. These funds are not spent, but are used as a capital with which to keep our colporteurs supplied with books. We hope that in associations where permanent funds have not been raised, efforts will be made to do so this fall. The Board very much desire to raise \$1,000 this year to enable them to extend the work.

The Bible Work of the American Baptist Publication Society was heartily endorsed by our last State Convention, and the State Mission Board was instructed to raise money for its support. Since the commencement of our State work the Society has generously furnished us, gratuitously, with as many Bibles and Testaments as the Board needed for distribution. During the year ending March 31st, 1884, it gave to Alabama Baptists 5,756 copies of the Scriptures, valued at \$513.30. During the same time our churches gave to Bible work \$33.95. Alabama Baptists are amply able to supply the destitution of the Scriptures in their own State, and to give generous help to the Society, to enable it to meet the wants of less favored States. Our State Board proposes to raise this year \$500 for this work. May we not earnestly request every church in this Association to contribute to the American Baptist Publication Society this year for Bible distribution?

E. T. SMYTH, Chm'n.

Pending consideration of the report, the Association adjourned to 1:30 P. M.

Prayer by Bro. Lacy.

THURSDAY, Sept. 18th, 1:30 P. M.

The Association came to order. Prayer by B. F. Giles.

The report of the Committee on Colportage and Bible Work was adopted.

The Committee on Foreign Missions reported:

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

In this age of civilization and Christian progress, your committee deem it unnecessary to advance arguments and scriptural authority and injunction to convince Baptists in this Association that it is a religious duty, as well as a privilege, to send the Gospel to those who have it not.

The last annual report of the Foreign Mission Board gave us cheering news. During the past conventional year of the Southern Baptist Convention the Board received \$80,465.87, an increase of \$23,516.16 over last year's receipts. Of this amount Alabama gave contributions amounting to \$3,310.88, and legacies amounting to \$4,988.75. The contributions of the thirty-four churches, comprising a membership of about three thousand, embraced in the Coosa River Association, so far as your committee can ascertain, amounted to the very small sum of \$156.40 the past year for Foreign Missions; only a fraction above five cents per capita. The Corresponding Secretary of the Foreign Mission Board, in his report, says: "In view of the increased liberality of our churches, a growing missionary spirit in students for the ministry, the general prosperity and gradual expansion of our missions, and the opening of new fields all over the world, the friends of Foreign Missions should thank God and take courage." The Board has missions in Mexico, Brazil, Italy, Africa and China. The missionaries have native assistants laboring with them. The number of missionaries, native and foreign, is 95; their stations and out stations, 42; the increase of membership during the year has been 175; the pupils of the Sunday and day schools number 684; the church membership is 1,141; the contributions in the fields the past year amounted to \$1,077. The work is expanding signally in each of the five continents in which our missionaries labor. The Board expects to go forward, depending on the liberality of the churches and claiming the divine promise, "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

Our State Mission Board asks the seventy or eighty thousand white Baptists in this State to raise this year, for Foreign Missions, \$5,000, and of this amount this Association is asked to raise \$203.70. Will we not do that much at least, and if possible, more? Surely the Corresponding Secretary did not refer to our Association when he said in his report: "In view of the *increased liberality* of the churches," etc. Of the fifty-nine associations in this State, the Coosa River stands eleventh in the list in contributions to the various objects fostered by our denomination, contributing the past year only twenty-eight cents and two mills per capita. Ought not this exhibit to mantle our cheeks with shame, in view of the manifold mercies and blessings of God and the express injunction of the Apostle Paul in prescribing a rule for the benevolence of Christians? See 1 Cor. 16:1,2. The day in which we will have opportunity to work, and pray, and give, is rapidly passing away. Let us bestir ourselves to work, and endeavor, according to our ability and opportunity, to discharge the responsibility which our gracious Heavenly Father requires at our

hands, that when our labors here are ended we may hear the welcome plaudit, "Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things; enter thou into the joys of thy Lord." Respectfully submitted,
ABNER WILLIAMS, Chm'n.

Adopted.

Special Committee on Temperance reported:

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

The Bible enjoins upon Christianity and the world temperance in all things, but more especially does it demand abstinence from alcoholic liquors and intoxicating beverages. The blighting and degrading effects of rum drinking are to be seen on every hand, and every year in our United States 40,000 freshly made widows and 200,000 new made orphans raise their hungry wails and cry out for the suppression of the destroyer of their happiness. It kills not only the bodies, but the souls of its miserable victims; it consumes the produce that should go to the sustenance of life; it renders idle and dissolute untold numbers of human beings who but for it would be useful and happy; it degrades society, dethrones honesty, and is a great stumbling-block to Christianity. It is useless to multiply arguments. Observation and experience are eloquent to convince.

Many communities and counties in our beloved State have aroused to the importance of putting down this giant evil, and quite a number of them are rejoicing in glorious triumphs achieved, in the enthronement of peace, prosperity and total abstinence. It is eminently becoming that the Coosa River Baptist Association at its present session, as in years past, should put itself on record as to this all-important question. Therefore,

Resolved, That we, as an Association, recognize the magnitude of the great cause of Temperance, and will, as ministers and churches composing this body, do all in our power to inculcate the glorious doctrine and banish intoxicating liquors from our land.

B. D. WILLIAMS, Chm'n.
J. C. WRIGHT,
J. S. KELLY.

Adopted.

The Finance Committee reported:

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

CHURCHES.	State Missions.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Minutes.	Jenkins' Fund.	Min'l Education.	Oliver Welsh Colp. Fund.	Ch. B'ld'g Fund.	TOTAL.
Cold Water.....	\$ 75	\$ 37	\$ 38	\$ 3 00	\$	\$	\$	\$	4 50
Sulphur Springs.....	50			3 00					2 50
Antioch.....	11 00			2 00					13 00
Salem.....			3 70	2 00					5 70
Oxford.....				2 00					5 30
Jacksonville.....	10 00	13 00	5 25	5 30					30 25
Mt. Zion (Calhoun Co.).....	18 00	9 00	9 00	3 00					30 00
Oak Bowery.....	7 50	3 75	3 75	3 00					18 00
Cane Creek.....	2 50	2 50		1 50					6 50
Munford.....				3 00					3 00
Weaver Station.....	2 50	1 25	1 25	3 00					8 00
Anniston.....	26 00	10 00	10 00	3 00					49 00
Talladega.....				3 00					3 00
Refuge.....				1 50					1 50
Pleasant Grove.....	13 60	6 80	6 80	2 00					29 20
Alpine.....	21 33			1 60	49 16		50 00		122 09
Hephzibah.....	4 00	4 00	4 00	1 50					13 50
Fort Williams.....	4 70	2 35	2 35	2 00					11 40
Tallassahatchee.....	2 00	2 00	2 00	2 00					8 00
Childersburg.....	1 65	82	83	1 75					5 05
Mt. Zion (Talladega Co.)..	25	12	13	2 00					2 50
Winterboro.....		3 65		1 75					5 40
Mt. Sharon.....				1 05					1 05
Harpersville.....	6 20	3 10	3 10	3 00					15 40
Spring Creek.....				1 65					1 65
Macedonia.....	1 00	50	50	2 45					4 45
Coosa Valley.....	3 50	1 75	1 75	1 50					8 50
Wilsonville.....	6 10	6 10	6 10	1 50		6 10			25 90
E. T. Smyth.....						5 00			5 00
J. S. Kelly.....	2 50	1 25				5 00			10 00
L. W. Lawler.....						5 00			5 00
Public collection.....							20 10		20 10
Total.....	\$ 245 58	\$ 72 31	\$ 62 14	\$ 63 05	\$ 49 16	\$ 21 10	\$ 50 00	\$ 20 10	\$ 483 44

Respectfully submitted,

D. H. THWEATT,
B. C. HEASLETT,
T. M. JONES, } Finance Committee.

The report was adopted.

Abner Williams offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the Clerk be allowed \$20.00 for his services, and that he is hereby instructed to have one thousand copies of the Minutes printed at the Job Office of the Selma Printing Company.

2. That the Clerk furnish Rev. Jno. L. West (Selma) a list of the churches composing this Association, the name and post office of the clerk of each, and deposit with Bro. West money sufficient to prepay postage on each package of Minutes, and request him to send them to the clerks by mail as soon as practicable.

Adopted.

Resolved (name of author not signed), That we deem *The Alabama Baptist* worthy of our support, and we commend it to the favor of the Baptist Brotherhood in the territory of the Coosa River Association, believing that its circulation will largely contribute to the success of the great enterprises fostered by the State Convention and by the Association.

Adopted.

Resolved (name of author not signed), That the thanks of this Association are hereby tendered to the brethren and sisters of Childersburg Church and the people of Childersburg and vicinity, for their cordial and liberal hospitality in entertaining the messengers composing this body.

Adopted.

On motion of A. Williams:

Resolved, That at 11 A. M. on Sabbath a Missionary Sermon be preached and a collection be taken at the next session of the Association.

The Association then adjourned with hymn, parting hand, and prayer by W. W. Kidd, to meet with the Wilsonville Church on Friday before the third Sabbath in September, A. D. 1885, at 11 A. M.

T. P. GWIN, Moderator.

LEALIS LAW, Clerk.

Appointments made by the Committee on Public Worship:

Cattlett Smith, Baptist Church,	Tuesday, 8 P. M.
G. A. Nunnally, " "	Wednesday, 11 A. M.
Geo. D. Harris, " "	" " 8 P. M.
Sam'l Henderson " "	Thursday, 11 A. M.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

E. T. Smyth,	E. V. Weaver,	H. L. Johnson.
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HOME MISSIONS.

W. Wilkes,	J. T. McMillan,	J. E. Welch.
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MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

J. C. Wright,	B. D. Williams,	J. S. Kelly.
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STATE MISSIONS.

J. J. D. Renfroe,	J. K. Elliott,	D. H. Thweatt.
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FAMILY RELIGION.

L. Merkl, Wm. P. McCain, Thos. L. Elliott.

TEMPERANCE.

L. Law, B. C. Heaslett, T. M. Jones.

COLPORTAGE AND BIBLE WORK.

W. S. Griffin, D. F. Weaver, B. G. McClelen.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

W. W. Kidd, R. B. Posey, J. B. Fiquet.

TRUSTEES OF I. M. FUND.

John W. Bishop, C. W. Stringer, W. A. Welch,
Jas. K. Elliott, Jas. S. Kelly.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

P. G. Stringer, Ed J. Dean, J. S. Kelly, G. A. Joiner,
J. B. Mynatt, W. T. Webb, John Henderson.

PLEDGES TO THE BIBLE AND COLPORTAGE WORK.

PAYABLE JAN. 1, 1885.

Abner Williams	\$ 5 00	Joseph Nunnally	\$ 2 50
Tallassahatchee Church	5 00	Wm. H. Malone	2 50
Hephzibah	5 00	S. A. Kirksey	2 50
Salem	2 50	J. T. Vinson (paid)	1 00
Spring Creek	2 50	Public collection..	6 90
Coosa V'y, pd. by B. C. Heaslett	2 50		
Childersburg Church.	5 00	Total	\$45 40
Jas. S. Kelly	2 50		

PLEDGES TO THE CHURCH BUILDING DEPARTMENT
OF HOME MISSIONS.

PAYABLE NOV. 1, 1884.

Sam'l Henderson	\$ 5 00	S. A. Kirksey	\$ 2 50
Geo. D. Harris	5 00	Cash collection	20 10
L. W. Lawler	5 00		
J. S. Kelly	5 00	Total	\$47 60
B. B. Nunnally	5 00		

PLEDGES FOR MINISTERIAL EDUCATION AT HOWARD COLLEGE.

PAYABLE OCT. 1, 1884.

G. A. Nunnally	\$ 5 00	Abner Williams.	\$ 5 00
E. T. Smyth, paid	5 00	Cold Water Church	5 00
J. S. Kelly, paid	5 00	Tallassahatchee "	5 00
L. W. Lawler, paid	5 00	Mt Zion Ch., Calhoun Co.	10 00
W. Wilkes, paid	5 00	Fort Williams Church	5 00
B. M. Fluker, paid	5 00	Wilsonville ch., pd. to Fln. Com.	6 10
Hephzibah Church	5 00	Munford Church	5 00
Jacksonville	5 00	J. C. Wright	5 00
Winterboro	5 00	S. A. Kirksey	5 00
Cane Creek	5 00		
Harpersville	5 00	Total	\$106 10

REPORTS FROM THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POST OFFICE	COUNTY.	Reg. by Baptism.	Rec'd by Letter	Dis. by Letter.	Excluded.	Restored.	Deceased.	Total Membership	State Missions.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Assoc'ial Missions.	Minutes.	Indg. Min. Fund.	Bible and Colp'age	Ministerial Education.	TOTAL.
Cold Water.....	T. P. Gwin.....	T. F. Teague.....	Oxford.....	Calhoun.....	19	6			1	3	145	\$ 75	\$ 37	\$ 38	\$	\$ 3 00				\$ 4 50
Sulphur Springs.....	T. K. Trotter.....	J. L. Finley.....	Bruner.....	"	80	6	15	3	1	3	182	50				2 00				2 50
Antioch.....	J. C. Wright.....	G. W. Manning.....	Oxford.....	"		4	2		1		80	11 00				2 00				13 00
Salem.....	W. Y. Browning.....	T. W. Ogletree.....	Eastaboga.....	Talladega.....		8	3	3		2	84			3 70						5 70
Oxford.....	J. C. Wright.....	T. M. Draper.....	Oxford.....	Calhoun.....	6	9	14			1	217	77 00	35 00	35 00		5 30		30 00		182 30
Jacksonville.....	M. H. Lane.....	P. D. Ross.....	Jacksonville.....	"		12	2			1	50	10 00	13 00	5 25		2 00				30 25
*Post Oak Sp'rg.....	T. P. Gwin.....	B. G. McClelen.....	Alexandria.....	"							159									
Mt. Zion.....	Geo. D. Harris.....	E. F. Crook.....	Alexandria.....	"	12	4	1				95	18 00	9 00	9 00		3 00				39 00
Oak Bowery.....	Geo. D. Harris.....	N. J. Belton.....	Cane Creek.....	"	25	16	11		2	3	138	7 50	3 75	3 75		3 00				18 00
Cane Creek.....	Wm. F. McCain.....	E. M. Reid.....	Morrisville.....	"	7	1	10		1	1	42	2 50	2 50			3 00				6 50
Munford.....	T. P. Gwin.....	B. W. Mattison.....	Munford.....	Talladega.....		8	9				72					3 00				3 00
Weaver Station.....	T. P. Gwin.....	J. W. Lester.....	Weaver Station.....	Calhoun.....	23	13	10	1			147	2 50	1 25	1 25		3 00				28 00
Anniston.....	E. T. Smyth.....	W. H. Clarke.....	Anniston.....	"	14	52	7				115	26 00	10 00	10 00		3 00				49 00
Blue Eye.....	T. K. Trotter.....	J. L. Law.....	Lincoln.....	Talladega.....		2		2	1		96		5 00			2 50				7 70
Talladega.....	J. J. D. Renfro.....	S. P. Burns.....	Talladega.....	"	1	8	2			2	176		21 00	37 50		3 00		100 00		161 50
*Ferryville.....	J. S. E. Robinson.....	W. O. Ward.....	Ferryville.....	St. Clair.....							181									
Refuge.....	W. F. McCain.....	J. B. Hall.....	Lincoln.....	Talladega.....		5	5	1		8	128					1 50				1 50
Pleasant Grove.....	J. A. Scott.....	T. E. Ogletree.....	Eureka.....	"	9	1	1				72	13 60	6 80	6 80		2 00				29 20
Alpine.....	S. Henderson.....	W. R. Thompson.....	Alpine.....	"			4		3	54	53 33	16 00	16 00	16 00	49 16	1 60	50 00	25 00		211 00
Hephzibah.....	W. S. Griffin.....	J. M. Burke.....	Renfro.....	"	23	2	4		3		97	4 00	4 00	4 00		1 50				13 50
*Pilgrims' Rest.....	John Garrett.....	J. D. Mathis.....	Pennington.....	"							130									
Fort Williams.....	W. Wilkes.....	M. S. Bennett.....	Fayetteville.....	"	1	9	1				77	4 70	2 35	2 35		2 00				11 40
Tallassahatchee.....	W. S. Griffin.....	J. C. McMillan.....	Sycamore.....	"	1		2	2			67	2 00	2 00	2 00		2 00				8 00
Childersburg.....	J. A. Scott.....	F. Moss.....	Childersburg.....	"	1	2	11				46	1 65	83	83		1 75				5 05
Mt. Zion.....	W. Wilkes.....	H. G. Darby.....	Sylacauga.....	"	1	4	1	5			91	25	12	13		2 00				2 50
Mt. Sharon.....	G. M. Lowery.....	H. W. Coleman.....	Fayetteville.....	"		1	2				45					1 05				1 05
*Rocky Mount.....	John Garrett.....	T. W. Barnett.....	Sylacauga.....	"							166									
Winterboro.....	W. S. Griffin.....	W. A. Morris.....	Alpine.....	"	1	14	7		1		71		3 65			1 75				5 40
Harpersville.....	E. B. Teague.....	W. H. Kidd.....	Harpersville.....	Shelby.....		1	4	11		1	97	18 20	9 10	9 10		3 00				39 40
Spring Creek.....	W. W. Kidd.....	W. R. Singleton.....	Harpersville.....	"		2			1	1	49	8 00	4 00	4 00		1 50				17 05
Wilsonville.....	E. B. Teague.....	J. N. Ray.....	Wilsonville.....	"					1	61	6 10	6 10	6 10			1 50		6 10		25 90
Macdonia.....	W. W. Kidd.....	D. C. Davis.....	Kelly's Creek.....	St. Clair.....	11	6	7		1		78	8 00	6 00	5 00		2 45				21 45
Crossa Valley.....	J. S. E. Robinson.....	S. D. Kilgore.....	Cropwell.....	"	14	10			1	119	3 50	1 75	1 75		1 50					8 50
Total.....					196	208	149	19	12	32	3120	\$ 279 08	\$ 163 77	\$ 163 89	\$ 49 16	\$ 65 55	\$ 50 00	\$ 161 10		\$ 832 54

*No report.

†Membership last year.

‡Jenkins' Fund.

THE ALABAMA BAPTIST, SELMA, ALABAMA.

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